GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1868
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINE
M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Election Commission has sought funds for purchase of Electronic Voting Machines for the coming assembly elections;

(b) if so, the number of electronic voting machines purchased by EC so far and money spent on their maintenance;

(c) whether the Government have decided to make compulsory use of EVMs in future elections; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Election Commission had purchased 1,50, 000 Electronic Voting Machines in 1989-90. Recently, the Government has allocated Rs.150 crores for purchase of additional Electronic Voting Machines. The information in respect of money spent on the maintenance of Electronic Voting Machines is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c)&(d) No, Sir. According to the Election Commision of India, it has decided to use the Electronic Voting Machines in the future elections as widely as possible. This, in Government`s view, will generate necessary experience of voting by the Electronic Voting Machines so as to enable the Government to consider compulsory use of Electronic Voting Machines in the future.